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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/761,418 Confirmation No. : 1427
First Named Inventor : Hiroyuki HYAKUTAKE
Filed : January 22, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1774
Examiner : J. M. Gray
Docket No. : 038788.53188US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : Coated Glass Fibers for Reinforcing Rubber

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed December 19, 2005 in the above-identified patent application, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, which are directed to coated fibers and a coating solution, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Akiyama, EP 937,740, and claims 8-13, which are directed to a fiber coating method, were originally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Akiyama. In Applicants' Reply to the original office action, it was pointed out that the rejections are defective because the claims require the presence of bisallylnadiimide or polymerization products thereof, and Akiyama does not disclose or suggest bisallylnadiimide or its polymerization products.

The Final Action seeks to maintain the rejections and responds to the arguments regarding the presence of bisallylnadiimide or its polymerization products by noting that the claims are product-by-process claims and then erroneously concluding that no patentable weight can be given to the process of making. This is not a correct statement of the law regarding product-by-process